

PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning and Policy Community

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Economics & Environment Conference 2004 “Toward Integrated Water Resources Management”

Bruce Carlson – CECW-PC

The E & E Conference 2004 in Baltimore is fast approaching. Check the [Conference web site](#) for the latest agenda, and other conference details.

Registration has exceeded expectations (our block of hotel rooms is sold out), but it is not too late to sign up. Register online on the web site.

Presentations from the Conference will be posted on the web site soon after the conference ends. Watch Planning Ahead for additional announcements.

Hydropower Analysis Center Assists Corps Offices with Hydropower Planning


Kamau Sadiki, Technical Manager, Hydropower Analysis Center – CENWD-CM-WP-N

The Corps of Engineers is the largest single hydropower producer in the USA, managing an \$18 billion Federal investment in 75 powerplants producing over 24% of all hydropower generated in the USA. The average age of the equipment in these powerplants is about 40 years, which is near the end of their design life. Although the equipment in many plants is starting to be replaced, these statistics point out the need to seriously consider equipment replacements at remaining plants. Various funding mechanisms are presently being evaluated to accomplish most of this work without the use of Federal appropriated funds. These funding mechanisms do not preclude the Corps from performing planning studies to justify improvements at Federal hydropower facilities. Operational changes affecting hydropower generation are also being considered at many projects in response to changing needs for the environment, water supply, navigation, and other considerations.

The Hydropower Analysis Center (HAC), located in the Northwestern Division Headquarters in Portland, Oregon, is a valuable resource for Corps staff needing assistance in all types of hydropower planning, analysis, and economic evaluations. The HAC was first established as a technical center in 1948 as part of the planning and development of the Columbia River hydropower system. Since that time, hundreds of different hydropower studies have been completed on a wide range of projects located throughout the USA, as well as in many foreign countries. The present staff of HAC has over 125 years of collective experience in hydropower, water resources, hydraulics and economics.


Examples of the types of services that can be provided by the HAC and recent studies performed for various Corps offices include:

- River System Studies: Columbia River System Operation Review for Northwestern Division
- Powerplant Major Rehabilitation: McNary Dam Turbine Replacement & Modernization for Walla Walla District, Chief Joseph Dam Turbine Replacement for Seattle District, Center Hill and Old Hickory Dams for Nashville
- Cost Allocation and Water Supply Reallocation Studies: White River Minimum Flow Water Supply Study for Little Rock, Lake Texoma Water Supply for Tulsa District, John H. Kerr Water Supply for Wilmington District
- Hydropower Economic Benefit Assessments: Transformer Reliability Study for Portland District, Denison Generator Rewind Study for Tulsa, Corps-wide Powerplant Seismic Risk Evaluation
- Hydropower Training: Planner's Associates Hydropower Course for HQUSACE, Water Supply and Powerplant Major Rehabilitation Workshops for South Atlantic Division and other Districts

For more information on the HAC and how it can assist you in meeting your hydropower planning needs, contact Kamau Sadiki at (503) 808-3980 or visit the [HAC website](#). For evaluations involving hydroelectric equipment replacements and upgrades the HAC works closely with the Hydroelectric Design Center, also located in Portland, Oregon. Go to the [Design Center's website](#) or contact Dave Mazar at (503) 808-4200. 

Requests for OMB Approval of Public Surveys

Stuart Davis – [CEIWR-MD](#)

The e-mail address of the Corps Department of Defense point-of-contact for Office of Management and Budget public surveys approval has changed. Mr. Robert Cushing's email address is now: robert.cushing@whs.mil. As a reminder, all questionnaires administered outside the Federal government of ten or more individuals or entities must be drawn from OMB-approved questions on the [IWR questionnaire website](#). Questionnaires must be submitted along with an explanation of the purpose of the survey, where and when the survey is to be conducted, who and how many are to be surveyed, sampling method, and direct reference to appropriate approved surveys and questionnaire numbers. Your appropriate MSC representative should file all requests through Robert Cushing to James Laity. Copies of all requests should be sent to me, as well as Bruce Carlson (CECW-PC) for all planning surveys and to Judy Rice (CECW-CO) for all recreation management surveys. 

WOTS Workshop on Restoration of Riparian Zones for Water Quality and Ecological Functions

Richard A. Fischer – [CEERD-EE-E](#)

The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), Environmental Laboratory, announces the availability of a free workshop to Corps of Engineers employees. The 3 ½-day workshop, which has been taught the past two years (2002 in Louisville; 2003 in Phoenix) is tentatively scheduled for 10-13 August, 2004 in Louisville, KY. This workshop will include a variety of technical presentations by ERDC engineers and scientists on riparian restoration and management, centering on the prevention and control of non-point source pollution using riparian buffer strips along streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands. We will also address methods and techniques that provide a broad range of physical and ecological functions, including streambank protection and bioengineering, and habitat and movement corridors. This workshop will provide a more in-depth analysis and presentation of the problems and potential solutions available for the assessment, design, and implementation of riparian buffer strips that may be lacking in other courses.


If you are interested in attending the course, please send your request for attendance to the course coordinator, Dr. Richard Fischer (fischer@wes.army.mil). In past years the course has filled quickly, so do not delay in reserving a spot – this year we have expanded the number of available slots from 30 to 40. Further details about the meeting, including agenda, hotel, and travel logistics will be provided once a final list of attendees has been completed.

This workshop is made possible by funds from the [Water Operations Technical Support Program](#).




Update – Planning Excellence Program (Pep) Initiatives

Doug Lamont – [CECW-PC](#)

As reported last month, EC 1165-2-205, Delegation of Review and Approval Authority for Certain Post-Authorization Decision Documents, has been approved by OASA(CW) and will be published very shortly on this Corps publications [website](#). 

Instructions for Contributors to Planning Ahead

This newsletter is designed to improve the communication among all the planners and those we work with throughout the Corps. We hope that future editions will have mostly information and perspective from those of you on the front lines in the districts. We hope that these notes become a forum for you to share your experiences to help all of us learn from each other. We can't afford to reinvent the wheel in each office. We welcome your thoughts, questions, success stories, and bitter lessons so that we can share them on these pages. The articles should be short (2-3 paragraphs) except in some cases where you just have to say more.

- Use MS WORD
- Use "normal" style
- Use Times New Roman font, 11 point
- All text should be left justified with start of each paragraph indented by one tab stop.
- Each article should have short title with only initial letter of each word capitalized
- Following each title should be author's name and organization
- Last line should be contact information – phone number or e-mail address 

Subscribing to Planning Ahead

To subscribe or to our distribution list, send an e-mail message to majordomo@lst.usace.army.mil with no subject line and only a single line of text in the message body.

That single line of text should be: "subscribe ls-planningahead"

To obtain a 'help' file, send only the word 'help' in the text of the message (nothing in the subject line) and address it to majordomo@lst.usace.army.mil 

Submissions Deadline

The deadline for material for the next issue is **23 April 2004**.

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The staff of *Planning Ahead* is Brad Fowler as editor, writer and chief bottle washer and Harry Kitch as publisher. Please continue to send in all those good articles and information to Brad. TEL 202-761-1765 or email kirby.b.fowler@usace.army.mil. Harry Kitch can be reached at TEL 202-761-4127 or e-mail Harry.E.Kitch@usace.army.mil. 